

1 IN THE SENATE

BY BINKLEY, RODEY, KERTTULA  
AND STURGULEWSKI

2

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4

SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

6

Awareness Week.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

8 WHEREAS alcohol-related birth defects are a major health problem in  
9 Alaska; and

10 WHEREAS the most severe alcohol-related birth defect is fetal alcohol  
11 syndrome, which includes permanent growth retardation in weight, length,  
12 and head circumference; altered morphogenesis, especially characteristic  
13 facial abnormalities; and central nervous system damage, often with mental  
14 retardation; and

15 WHEREAS fetal alcohol syndrome is often accompanied by other severe  
16 medical problems such as heart defects or defects in other organs; and

17 WHEREAS pregnant women who consume alcohol also risk having babies  
18 with other mild or intense damage, called fetal alcohol effects, which may  
19 include central nervous system involvement with developmental delay, learn-  
20 ing disabilities, behavioral problems, growth retardation, or abnormal  
21 facial characteristics; and

22 WHEREAS research has also shown that additional children of a woman  
23 who has previously given birth to a child with an alcohol-related birth  
24 defect will be born with alcohol-related birth defects in successively  
25 severe degrees if the woman continues to drink during pregnancy; and

26 WHEREAS alcohol-related birth defects can be totally prevented if  
27 pregnant women and women who plan to become pregnant abstain from alcohol  
28 consumption;

29 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests

1 the Governor to proclaim May 14 - 20, 1989, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Aware-  
2 ness Week, and to request that schools, health care organizations and  
3 practitioners, and other public and private agencies and individuals ob-  
4 serve the week with appropriate activities.